

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Currently Amended) A text mining system that permits an application service provider to provide ~~for providing~~ data identifying prospective customers of a product or service provided by a product/service provider, comprising:

a data acquisition process for extracting text data documents from ~~at least one~~ Internet text sources selected from the group of: newsgroups, discussion forums, and mailing lists; ~~and web sites;~~

wherein the text sources ~~are associated with participants of the text sources~~ comprise a collection of text documents generated by participants of the text sources and broadcasted to multiple participants of the text sources.;

a archive database for storing the extracted text data documents;

a text mining server for receiving queries from the product/service provider and ~~executing searches of~~ the database, each query requesting ~~representing a request for~~ information about a search for participants who are prospective customers of the product or service;

wherein the text mining server is further operable to analyze data in the database, to provide the product/service provider with outputs representing themes extracted from the data , thereby identifying and a link to at least one document stored in the database that contains ~~information~~ identifying a prospective customer who is discussing the product or service; and

a web server for providing access to the text mining server via a web browser and the Internet, such that the product/service provider may ~~execute the searches~~ interact with the text mining server to make the requests on line via the Internet; and to receive a query response the outputs generated by the text mining server containing the information identifying a prospective customer and a link to the document;

wherein the at least one link enables the product/service provider to access a text document from the archive database via the web browser;

wherein the web server is different from the text mining servers ~~for the text data~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~corporate text files~~ text documents are items of digitally recorded correspondence.

3. (Currently Amended) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~corporate text files~~ text documents are digital voice records.

4. (Original) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the data acquisition process is implemented with a web crawler.

5. (Original) The text mining system of Claim 1, further comprising a user profiles database, and wherein the mining server further accesses the user profiles database for use in formulating queries.

6. (Currently Amended) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein ~~the data acquisition process further accesses~~ text sources are further selected from Internet voice-to-text files.

7. (Currently Amended) A method, performed by an information service provider, of providing data identifying prospective customers of a product or service provided by a product/service provider, comprising the steps of:

identifying source data from at least one Internet text source selected from the group of: newsgroups, discussion forums, and mailing lists, ~~and web sites~~;

wherein the text sources comprise a collection of text documents generated by participants of the text sources and broadcasted among multiple participants of the text sources;

extracting text documents from specified source data;

storing the ~~source data~~ extracted text documents in an archive database;

receiving a query from the product/service provider, via a web browser and a text mining server, the query ~~requesting a search for~~ representing a request for information about participants of the text sources who are prospective customers of the product or service;

using the text mining server to analyze data in ~~accessing the~~ archive database to satisfy the query, thereby providing the product/service provider with output representing a theme extracted from the data, and a link to ~~identifying~~ at least one document containing information identifying a prospective customer who is discussing the product or service; and

delivering to the product/service provider, via a web browser, a query response to the product/service provider, the query response containing the output ~~information identifying a prospective customer~~, a description of the text source ~~text~~, and a link to the document.

8. (Currently Amended) The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the ~~corporate text files~~ sources are items of digitally recorded correspondence.

9. (Currently Amended) The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the ~~corporate text files~~ sources are digital voice records.

10. (Original) The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the data acquisition process is implemented with a web crawler.

11. (Original) The text mining method of Claim 7, further comprising the steps of storing user profiles in a user profiles database, and of accessing the user profiles database during the step of formulating queries.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, further comprising the step of electronically delivering advertising to the prospective customer.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein the advertising is a link to a web site.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, further comprising the step of contacting the prospective customer for permission to send advertising to the customer.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, further comprising the step of performing a reverse lookup for additional information about the prospective customer and wherein the delivering step further includes delivering the additional information.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising a reverse lookup process for performing a reverse lookup, via the Internet, for contact information associated with the potential customer, and wherein the web server further provides the contact information with the query response.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving from the product/service provider, via a web browser, an identification of one or more of the Internet text sources to be searched by the product/service provider.

18. (New) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a repository for storing outputs generated by the text mining server.